

PARENTS' NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL UNION.

Reading Course

In Child Training and Home Craft for Mothers and elder Girls.*

The attention of Members is called to this Course, which is open to all Members of the P.N.E.U. It is designed to include the distinctive teaching of the Union, and therefore the five volumes of the Home Education Series are set for study; these books were specially prepared from time to time by Miss C. M. Mason for the use of the Parents' National Educational Union, and are a progressive amplification of the principles of the Union. Each of the first four volumes is furnished with a full table of contents and with numerous questions which should aid the reader in testing her own knowledge of the books. The Course† also includes Miss Mason's latest and most important work, *An Essay towards a Philosophy of Education*.

The Course offers,—

- (1). Help towards such teaching as should confirm children in the Christian Religion.
- (2). Some knowledge of the principles of Education and the methods based on those principles.
- (3). Knowledge necessary for the care and development of children in sickness and health, together with some help in matters of Home-Craft.
- (4). Some knowledge of Nature Lore and Elementary Science.

The work deals with the principles of and suggests good methods for the physical, moral, mental and religious training of children, and includes the knowledge through which their first inspiring ideas about the natural world should come to them. Every word in each of the books is not offered to the student as the teaching of the P.N.E.U. Some degree of sifting, and of personal selection, is required. Books are set which give indications as to contemporary problems and current thought.

Much of the matter may be familiar, but it is one thing to read a work casually and quite another thing to study it definitely with a view to examination.

The work falls under the headings of,—

Divinity.

Mental and Moral Science and Education.

Physiology and Health, including some Mothercraft and Housecraft.

Nature-Lore and the Elements of Science.

* Formerly *The Mothers' Educational Course*.

† There will be a Second Year's Course if a sufficient number of members are able to undertake the reading.

Some of the books may be borrowed from the P.N.E.U. Library.

The year's work may be done by reading about 120 pages a week for 10 months. The order of the reading is left to the student. The set parts of the *Home Education Series* should be studied first.

The examinations (if taken) fall twice a year, in the last week in May and the last week in November, when examination papers will be sent out.

The first half of each of the books set will be taken up in the first examination of the year.

It is suggested that girls who have finished their school course and are not going to enter the teaching profession should take up this course which is also intended for young mothers. Such girls should also get practical experience in,— (1) Household Economy. (2) Nursery Hygiene and Training.

It is hoped that all Members will keep a reading diary, or commonplace book, for the books on general reading that will be set.

Fees: The course, without examination, is free to all members of the P.N.E.U. The examination fee is 10/6 a year.

All communications regarding the work of the Reading Course should be sent to The Director, P.N.E.U. Reading Course, Ambleside.

For further particulars of P.N.E.U. apply to the Secretary, P.N.E.U. Office, 26 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

FIRST YEAR'S COURSE.

GROUP I.

DIVINITY.

To help towards such teaching as should confirm children in the Christian Religion.

For general use, *The One Volume Bible Commentary*, by The Rev. T. R. Dummelow (Macmillan, 10/-). *The Modern Readers' Bible*, arranged by Dr. R. G. Moulton (Macmillan, 12/-), may be used. *Peloubet's Bible Dictionary* (R.T.S., 10/6).

1. The Bible as a whole.
 - (a) *How to read the Bible*, by Professor R. G. Moulton, LL.D., Ph.D. (Macmillan, 3/6).
 - (b) Articles in *The Bible Commentary*.
2. (i.) The Old Testament as a Progressive Revelation of God.
 - (a) *Everyman's Story of the Old Testament*, by Professor A. Nairne, D.D. (Mowbray, 4/6).
 - (b) Articles in *The Bible Commentary*.
- (ii.) The Histories of the Pentateuch.

Old Testament History, by J. M. Hardwick and the Rev. H. Costley-White, D.D. (Murray, 3/6), Vol. I.

3. The New Testament as a Revelation of Jesus Christ.
 - (a) *St. Luke's Gospel*, with notes in *The Bible Commentary*.
 - (b) *The Saviour of the World*, by C. M. Mason (Kegan Paul, 3/- each), Vols. I. and II., with Bible Text (see Index).
 - (c) *The Faith of the New Testament*, by Professor A. Nairne, D.D. (Longmans, 6/-).
4. The Bible and Modern Research.
 - (a) Articles in *The Bible Commentary* and 2 (i.) a.
 - (b) *How we got our Bible*, by Canon J. Paterson Smyth, D.D. (Sampson Low, 2/6).
 - (c) *Sinai and Palestine*, by Dean Stanley (Murray, 4/-).
 - (d) *Side Lights on the Bible*, by Mrs. Brightwen (R.T.S., 3/-).
5. Practical Teaching of Religion.
 - (a) Chapters on religious teaching in *Parents and Children*, by C. M. Mason (Kegan Paul, 5/-).
 - (b) *Moral and Religious Education*, by Dr. S. Bryant (Arnold, 6/-).
6. The Will, the Conscience, the Divine Life in the Child.
 - (a) *Home Education*, Part VI.
 - (b) *Ourselves*, by C. M. Mason (Kegan Paul, 7/6), Part II.
 - (c) *The Spirit of Discipline*, by The Right Rev. Francis Paget, D.D. (Longmans, 5/-).
7. Christianity and Modern Thought.
 - (a) *Every-Day Religion*, by Canon E. S. Woods (Student Christian Movement, 3/-).
 - (b) *Christianity and Psychology*, by Professor F. R. Barry (Student Christian Movement, 5/-).
 - (c) *The Clash of Colour*, by B. Mathews (U.C.M.E., 2/-).
8. For reference: *Helps to the Study of the Bible* (Oxford Press, from 2/-).

N.B.—Nos. 2, 3 and 6, with one other number, should be studied during the year.

GROUP II.

PHYSIOLOGY AND HEALTH.

To give the knowledge necessary for the care and development of children in sickness and health.

1. The Organs of the Body and their Functions.
 - (a) *The Human Body, a little Red Mannikin*, by Owen Lankester (Allman, 3/-).
 - (b) *Huxley's Physiology* (1920 edition) (Macmillan, 6/-), first half.
 - (c) *The Romance of the Human Body*, by R. C. Macfie (Gardner, Darton, 5/-).
2. The Laws of Health and Care of the Sick.
 - (a) *Domestic and Personal Hygiene*, by John Thresh (St. John Ambulance, 1/6).
 - (b) *Perfect Health for Women and Children*, by E. Sloan Chesser, M.B. (Methuen, 5/-).
 - (c) *The Mothercraft Manual*, by M. Liddiard (Churchill Amalgamated Press, 3/6), and *The Bestway Nursery Book*, edited by M. Liddiard (6d.), both obtainable from Cromwell House, Highgate, London, N.6.
 - (d) *The Nervous Child*, by H. C. Cameron, M.D. (Oxford Press, 7/6).

3. Practical.

(a) A "Household Book" should be kept with notes on cooking, cleaning, and the mending and making proper to a house. It is hoped that mothers will allow their grown-up daughters (i.) to have the benefit of six months' training at home under their own supervision or that of an experienced house-keeper, or, (ii.) to take a course of training in Domestic Economy, for which there are now many facilities available.

For reference: *Practical Housecraft*: (1) *Housewifery*, (2) *Laundry*, (3) *Cooking* (Longmans, 6d. each).

(b) A "Nursery Book" should be kept. It is suggested that a course should be taken at a really good Mothercraft Training Centre. The Mothercraft Training Society, Cromwell House, Highgate London, N.6, is recommended for this purpose.

For reference: *Common Sense in the Nursery*, by Charis Barnett (Christophers, 5/-). *Simple Garments for Infants*, by H. B. Synge (Longmans, 6/-).

N.B.—It is hoped that all students will take Nos. 2 and 3 in any case, and send in the Household and Nursery Books for examination.

GROUP III.

MENTAL AND MORAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION.

To show the Principles of Education and Methods based on these Principles.

1. Mental Physiology.

- (a) *Home Education*, chapters on Habit, etc.
- (b) *The Children and the Stress of Life*, by Helen Webb, M.B. (Lond.), (P.N.E.U. Office: ready shortly).
- (c) *Education of the Central Nervous System*, by R. P. Halleck (Macmillan, 9/-), chapters i.-vi.

For reference: (d) *The Psychology of Education*, by Professor J. Welton D. Litt. (Macmillan, 10/-).

2. Philosophy and Ethics.

- (a) (i.) *Home Education*.
- (ii.) *Ourselves*, by C. M. Mason (Kegan Paul), Part I.
- (b) (i.) *The Making of Character: Some Educational Aspects of Ethics*, by J. MacCunn, LL.D. (Cambridge Press, 4/6).
- (ii.) Wordsworth's *Prelude*, Books I.-V. (Dent, 2/-). *Mary's Meadow*, by Mrs. Ewing (Bell, 3/6), or other literary studies of children.

For reference: (c) *The Meeting of Extremes in Contemporary Philosophy*, by Dr. Bernard Bosanquet (Macmillan, 6/-).

3. Education: Theory.

- (a) *Home Education*.
- (b) *Parents and Children*.
- (c) Quick's *Educational Reformers* (Longmans, 5/-).
- (d) Plato's *Education of the Young* (Cambridge Press, 4/6), Book III.

4. Education: Teaching.

- (a) *Home Education*, chapters on Teaching.
- (b) *School Education*, by C. M. Mason (Kegan Paul, 5/-).

GROUP IV.

NATURE LORE AND THE ELEMENTS OF SCIENCE.

To help towards such knowledge as should awaken children's interest in Nature and to give them their first ideas.

1. Elements of Botany.

- (a) *The Study of Plant Life*, by H. C. Stobbes (Blackie, 6/-).
- (b) *Plant Life and its Romance*, by F. E. Weiss (Longmans, 3/6).

For reference: *Flowers of the Field*, by the Rev. C. A. Johns (Routledge, 10/6). *Our Wayside Trees and how to know them*, by Forster Robson (Thornton Butterworth, 3/6).

2. Natural History.

- (a) *The Changing Year*, by F. M. Haines (Wadsworth, 3/-).
- (b) *Animal Geography*, by W. P. Pycraft (Wells Gardner Darton, 2/6).
- (c) *The Bodley Head Natural History: British Birds*, Vol. I., by E. D. Cuming (Lane, 5/-).
- (d) *Everyday Doings of Insects*, by E. Cheesman (Harrap, 7/6).

For reference: i., *British Birds*, by the Rev. C. A. Johns (Routledge, 10/6). ii., *A Nature Study Guide*, by W. S. Furneaux (Longmans, 6/-).

3. Astronomy.

- (a) *The Vault of Heaven*, by Sir Richard Gregory (Methuen, 6/-).
- For reference: *Stars at a Glance* (Philip, 1/6).

4. General Science.

- (a) *Some Wonders of Matter*, by Bishop Mercer (S.P.C.K., 5/-).
- (b) *Wonders of Physical Science*, by E. E. Fournier (Macmillan, 2/6).
- Practical Work: *Easy Experiments in Science*, by H. Mackay (Oxford Press, 1/6).

5. Geology.

- (a) *A Popular Geology*, by W. Platt (Sheldon Press, 2/6).
- For reference: *The Ordnance Survey Geological Map of the British Isles* (Stanford, 2/-).

N.B. 1. Three of the above, including Nos. 1 and 2, should be studied during the year.

- 2. A Nature Note-Book (P.N.E.U. Office, 2/3) should be kept with notes, drawings, and lists of flowers, birds and trees, etc.
- 3. A special leaflet of reference books for Nature Study will be sent to members overseas.